नियंत्रण को पूर्णतया समाप्त करने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह निर्णय कब तक लागू किए जाने का विचार है और इसका क्या तर्क है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्प नाथ राय): (क) से (ग): चीनी मिलों को लाइसेंस देने से संबंधित वर्तमान नीति, जिसमें लाइसेंसमुक्त करने का विकल्प भी शामिल है, पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

जहां तक चीनी के वितरण का संबंध है, फिलहाल, सरकार का चीनी पर नियंत्रण समाप्त करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है क्योंकि दोहरी मूल्य प्रणाली के साथ आंशिक नियंत्रण की वर्तमान नीति अत्यधिक कारगर पाई गई है और यह समय की कसौटी पर खरी उतरी है।

Vocational Education At Degree Level

*297. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's decision to introduce vocational courses at the degree college level from the current academic year is long overdue;

(b) if so, whether Government have given effect to the recommendations to the Expert Committee appointed by the UGC which had suggested the introduction of 35 vocational courses in 100 odd colleges;

(c) if so, whether during 1993 these courses had been extended to the lower second stage;

(d) whether these vocational educational courses can pressure to higher education;

(e) whether it has been pointed out by the experts that Rs. 111 crore would be required to implement the programme for 4 years;

(f) whether his Ministry had been urging for greater fund allocation to vocational education; and

(g) what are the programmes that have been prepared for giving improvement to the vocational education during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission has decided to assist the universities and college for starting vocational courses at graduate level from the academic year 1994-95. The Commission will provide assistance according to the norms developed by it for each individual course.

(c) A Centrally sponsored Scheme of pre-vocational education at lower secondary stage was introduced during 1993-94 under which assistance is given to States / U.T.s for introduction of vocational courses in class IX and X with a view to imparting training to the students in simple marketable skills and also to prepare them for participation in work as a desired dimension of academic education.

(d) The introduction of the vocational courses at the Ist degree stage is expected to provide knowledge and skills required for entry into gainful employment, particularly self-employment. This measure is expected to ease pressure on the post-graduate level of education.

(e) Yes, Sir. Funds for implementation of the programme would be provided to the UGC from year to year subject to actual availability of plan resources.

(f) The implementation of vocational courses at the first-degree level is commencing from the current session. The Ministry has in the past been urging for higher allocation of resources for the vocationalisation of Secondary education programme.

(g) The measures for strengthening vocational education include setting up of a Central Institute of Vocational Education, introduction of vocational courses at the first degree level, effective use of professionals to ensure practical orientation and standards, greater interaction with agencies in the employment market etc.

Evolving a Comprehensive Sugar Policy

*298. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing sugar policy with regard to its production and imports;

(b) whether considering the current sugar crisis in the wake of unchecked price escalation at the onset of the crushing season 1993-94, Government propose to evolve a comprehensive sugar policy; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI):(a) to (c): The essential features of the policy relating to sugar production are as follows:—

(i) To licence adequate capacity through new sugar factories and expansion projects to meet the requirements of domestic consumption and exports.

(ii) To increase cane production commensurate with the licensed/ installed capacity.

(iii) Grant of incentives for early, mid and late crushing periods to sugar factories in the form of higher free sale sugar quota to encourage higher sugar production.

(iv) Grant of incentives to new sugar factories and expansion projects to enable them to service the loans taken by them from financial institutions for execution of these projects.

(v) Providing loans on concessional rates of interest for sugarcane development schemes and modernisation/ rehabilitation of sugar factories to increase productivity of cane and the sugar factory.

(vi) To follow a rational pricing policy so that the interest of the cane growers, industry and consumers are harmonised.

As regards imports, these are undertaken in the years of shortages. To augement the availability of open market sugar in the country, import of sugar has been placed under OGL duty free. For meeting the requirements of the public distribution system, STC / MMTC are importing the required quantity of sugar. Import of raw sugar has also been placed under OGL

The sugar policy is constantly under review of the Government and such measures as may be necessary including buffer stocking would be considerd by the Government at the appropriate time.

Sharing of Ganga Water

* 299. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI RAM NARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's have drawn up any plans on the sharing of Ganga water among the States through which it is flowing;

(b) whether any assessment has been made regarding the utilization of Ganga water by the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) how the Akash Ganga project will affect the availability of Ganga water in Bihar and West Bengal;

(d) whether there is any proposal to construct a dam across the river at Kanpur; and

(e) if so, what will be its environmental impact in the downstream?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) There is no such plan drawn up between Ganga basin states for sharing of Ganga Water.

(b) No assessment has been made regarding the utilisation of Ganga water in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Union Government has not received any scheme titled 'Akash Ganga Project' from the Ganga basin states.

(d) There is no proposal to construct a dam but only a barrage across the river Ganga at Kanpur.

(e) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has not submitted the Environment Impact Assesment Report to the Union Government for appraisal.

Prices of Urea

*300. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed to raise the prices of Urea at the time when monsoon starts; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for choosing such a time?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.